



Senator Brent Waltz

Indiana State Senate
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204

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Senator Waltz enjoyed attending the "National Night Out" with Southport's "Sparky the Fire Safety Dog" this summer in Homecroft.

Legislative Calendar

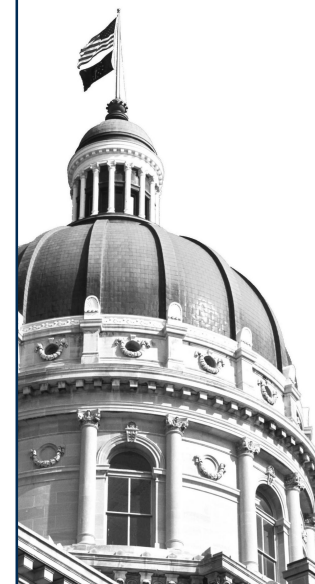
Bill filing begins for 2006:
Monday, October 24, 2005

Organization Day:
(The first official day of the 2006 session)
Tuesday, November 22, 2005

Regular session activity begins:
Early January 2006

Legislature must adjourn for the year no later than:
Tuesday, March 14, 2006

To submit your answers to my 2006 legislative survey:



1. Visit my web site at: www.in.gov/S36 and fill out the online survey. Be sure to include your name and address. You may also include your telephone number and e-mail address.

OR:

2. Cut survey at dotted line. Fold the survey like a letter and seal in an envelope, or simply fold the survey in half with your answers on the inside and seal with clear tape. Place a 37-cent stamp where indicated and mail.

CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE ✂

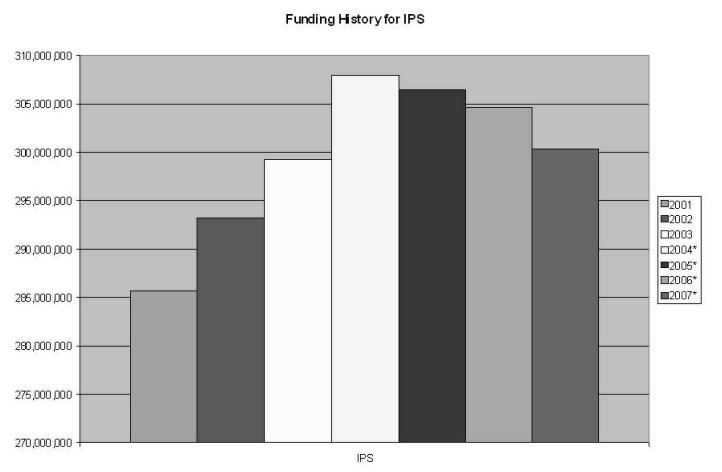
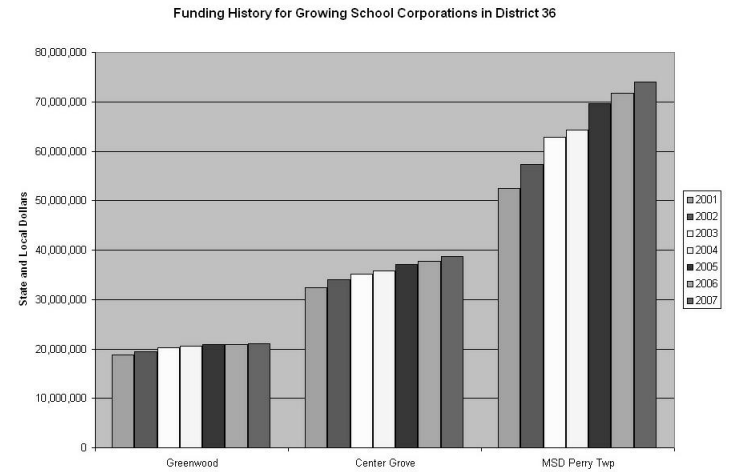
Growing School Districts Receive Funding Increases

Education remains an important issue for the legislature. The Indiana Senate and the Indiana House of Representatives began a long-term restructuring of Indiana's education funding in 2005. While the state of Indiana is responsible for funding public education, most of the day-to-day financial decisions are made by the local school boards. The 36th Senate District is fortunate to have many strong, vibrant, and growing school corporations within its borders. Given the limited tax dollars available to the school corporations of Indiana, it is critical to spend them where they will do the most good. I am pleased with the amount received by most of our schools with

this new funding formula. The average increase in spending for the school corporations in our district are illustrated in the graphs below.

For many years, state government gave all public schools a funding increase, even if enrollment dropped. In the most recent state budget, funding was based partially on the number of students in each school corporation and partially on the number of at-risk students enrolled at the school. Because IPS has had a consistently declining enrollment over the last several years, the school corporation has not received an increase in funding.

Funding History for School Corporations in District 36



2006 LEGISLATIVE SURVEY

Each question may be answered by one or two voters in your household.

If more than two voters live in your household, please contact my office or complete my online survey at www.in.gov/S36.

1. Do you support the temporary suspension of Indiana's 18-cent tax on gasoline until prices return to lower levels?

Voter 1: a. Yes b. No

Voter 2: a. Yes b. No

2. Given recent testimony in public hearings that there are little, if any, cost savings in the Indy Works proposal, do you support regional consolidation of local government?

Voter 1: a. Yes b. No

Voter 2: a. Yes b. No

3. Should the Indiana legislature reform the tax code so that local government

and school corporations rely less on property taxes to fund themselves?

Voter 1: a. Yes b. No

Voter 2: a. Yes b. No

4. Should the Bureau of Motor Vehicles continue its plans to consolidate its operations and invest in technology to improve customer service?

Voter 1: a. Yes b. No

Voter 2: a. Yes b. No

5. What would be your preferred method of paying for future state road improvements? Please check all that apply:

- a. Maintain roads with existing funding options
- b. Increase gas tax
- c. Issue bonds
- d. Create toll roads on highways

Voter 1: a. b. c. d.

Voter 2: a. b. c. d.

6. Should the Indiana legislature place limits on how much school corporations can bond for construction projects without a referendum (vote) by taxpayers as a way to prevent property tax increases?

Voter 1: a. Yes b. No

Voter 2: a. Yes b. No



STATE SENATOR

Brent Waltz

SERVING DISTRICT 36



Dear Friends,

Hoosiers have been extremely generous in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Millions of dollars have been donated by our citizens. Task Force One of the Indiana National Guard played an important role in search and rescue operations in New Orleans. Indiana had one of the largest contingents of state national guardsmen in Louisiana, and I am very proud of the selfless acts of generosity and kindness of our citizens.

Another legacy of Hurricane Katrina is the realization of how vulnerable Indiana's economic health is to forces beyond our control. Most of our state's petroleum usage is refined along the Gulf Coast, and its disruption severely interrupted Midwest gasoline supplies. Gas prices skyrocketed and stations throughout central Indiana ran dangerously low on gasoline. High gas prices, combined with corporate bankruptcies and rising interest rates are making Indiana's economic recovery more uncertain. Although the Indiana legislature has little influence on the price of a gallon of gas, the Indiana General Assembly must continue to make economic growth the highest priority in the 2006 session.

I will introduce legislation in 2006 to assist small businesses and the people they hire. Businesses that employ fewer than 100 workers account for 75 percent of all new jobs created in Indiana. We must continue to make Indiana both a business-friendly and worker-friendly environment, building on the reforms the General Assembly made in 2005.

I am including this year's legislative survey in this newsletter. Taking a few moments to fill out and return the survey enables me to better represent your views in the Indiana General Assembly. You may complete the questionnaire on my web site at www.in.gov/S36 or mail it to my Statehouse office.

Again, I appreciate the opportunity to serve you. Please let me know if I may be of assistance to you or your family, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Brent Waltz
State Senator
District 36

Waltz Studies Critical Safety Issues to Prepare for 2006 Session

Throughout the summer months, legislators serve on interim study committees. Their purpose is to continue to refine potential legislation before the legislature reconvenes in January.

I serve on the Interim Study Committee on Fire Safety Issues. There have been several fatal fires in both nursing homes and university dormitories, and it is important to regularly review building and safety standards.

Many of these buildings were constructed decades ago and are exempted from many existing safety statutes. The major challenge is balancing the very real health and safety needs of

our citizens with establishing strict construction standards that would force owners into bankruptcy.

I believe that Indiana must protect its citizens who may otherwise be unaware of potential risks. The committee will recommend that legislation be drafted to compel nursing homes and university housing to speed up their fire safety renovations. Likewise, building owners would need to inform tenants of various safety deficiencies until they are corrected. These improvements will help vulnerable Hoosiers make wise decisions about where they live, as well as save lives in the years ahead.

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